

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EUR/ SOV: JFMATLOCK: SAL

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APPROVED BY EUR: WJSTOESSEL, JR

EUR: JAARMITAGE (SUBS)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 112117

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CVIS, ETRD, ABLD, UR, US

SUBJ: US- USSR BILATERAL ISSUES

REF: MOSCOW 5556; MOSCOW 6484

1. ASSISTANT SECRETARY STOESSEL CALLED IN AMBASSADOR DOBRYNIN ON JUNE 8 TO DISCUSS PREPARATIONS FOR BREZHNEV VISIT AND OUTSTANDING BILATERAL MATTERS. STOESSEL REVIEWED KEY UNANSWERED QUESTIONS RELATING TO VISIT AND DOBRYNIN SAID HE HOPED TO HAVE ANSWERS BY JUNE 11.

2. STOESSEL THEN PRESENTED TO DOBRYNIN A COPY OF REPRESENTATION LIST 15 (WITH CHANGES UPDATING IT TO JUNE 7), NOTING THAT DUBS HAD PRESENTED LIST TO KUZNETSOV MAY 16, AND STRESSING THE HIGH- LEVEL INTEREST IN FAVORABLE ACTION ON THESE APPLICATIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. DOBRYNIN ACCEPTED LIST WITHOUT SHOW OF RELUCTANCE CHARACTERISTIC OF HIS REACTION IN PAST, BUT OBSERVED MILDLY THAT SOVIET GOVERNMENT MIGHT INTERPRET PRESENTATION AT THIS TIME AS " FORM OF PRESSURE." STOESSEL POINTED OUT THAT THESE LISTS
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HAVE BEEN PRESENTED ON REGULAR BASIS FOR MANY YEARS, AND THAT PRACTICE WAS INITIATED BY PRESIDENT HIMSELF WHEN, AS VICE PRESIDENT, HE MADE HIS FIRST TRIP TO USSR. BECAUSE OF INTENSE CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST IN GREAT MAJORITY OF

CASES, THIS WOULD BE PARTICULARLY PROPITIOUS TIME FOR FAVORABLE ACTION. DOBRYNIN INDICATED THAT HE WAS AWARE OF CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST FROM EXTENSIVE CORRESPONDENCE HE HAS RECEIVED FROM CONGRESSMEN. HE SAID THAT TRANSMITTAL OF THE LIST BY POUCH WOULD TAKE ABOUT TEN DAYS, BUT AGREED TO REPORT OUR APPROACH TO MFA BY TELEGRAM.

3. STOESSEL THEN RAISED QUESTION OF COMMERCIAL OFFICE PROPERTY, REVIEWING HISTORY OF OUR COOPERATION IN WASHINGTON LAST OCTOBER, UNSATISFACTORY RESPONSE OF SOVIET AUTHORITIES TO OUR REQUIREMENTS IN MOSCOW, AND CHARGE'S DEMARCHE TO FIRYUBIN JUNE 4. DOBRYNIN WENT INTO LONG, ESSENTIALLY DEFENSIVE, EXPLANATION OF BUREAUCRATIC DIFFICULTIES IN MOSCOW IN SECURING SUITABLE PROPERTY FOR US AND INDICATED "PRIVATELY" THAT HE PERSONALLY WOULD NOT MIND MATTER BEING BROUGHT TO BREZHNEV'S ATTENTION DURING VISIT SINCE A DECISION FROM HIM MIGHT BE REQUIRED FOR RAPID SATISFACTION OF OUR NEEDS. (HE MENTIONED, AS AN EXAMPLE, THAT KOSYGIN HAD PERSONALLY ORDERED THAT AN APARTMENT BE MADE AVAILABLE TO CHASE MANHATTAN.)

4. DOBRYNIN THEN MENTIONED SOVIET EMBASSY'S CONCERN OVER DEMONSTRATIONS NEAR EMBASSY DURING BREZHNEV VISIT AND ASKED THAT STEPS BE TAKEN TO SEE THAT 500-FOOT RULE IS ENFORCED. STOESSEL REPLIED THAT WE ARE FULLY AWARE OF POTENTIAL PROBLEM AND ARE CONSULTING URGENTLY WITH THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT AND THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES TO MAKE SURE THAT PROBLEMS WILL BE AVOIDED. RUSH

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